

# FATALITY



AFZF-SAFE

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, III CORPS AND FORT HOOD  
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FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000



06 JUN 06

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Fatal Army Motor Vehicle Accident (AMV) – Fatality Memo 06-09

1. One III Corps Soldier lost his life and another was injured in a recent HMMWV rollover. The Soldier and NCO were conducting barrier checks in the local training area and as the vehicle crested a hill in the roadway, the driver lost control and rolled the vehicle. Both occupants were ejected with the vehicle eventually pinning and crushing the NCO (TC). The driver was treated at the local installation hospital for minor injuries; however, the TC suffered fatal injuries as a result of this needless accident.

2. The US Army Combat Readiness Center is currently conducting an investigation. Preliminary findings indicate that excessive speed, over confidence, and failure to comply with standards led to the HMMWV's rollover. Failure to wear seat belts caused the two Soldiers to be ejected from the vehicle and contributed to the fatal injuries the TC sustained. The TC and the trained operator had traveled the route before and both knew their responsibilities – they failed to follow standards.

3. This tragic event could have been avoided if leaders were fully engaged in properly supervising and enforcing standards. Safety equipment must be used and speed limits must be adhered to and enforced. Losing a Soldier in a training accident is unacceptable. Soldiers and leaders must not allow, or accept, loose standards in a training environment. We must train as we fight and we cannot afford to lose Soldiers in preventable accidents.

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RAYMOND T. ODIERNO  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

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